The temple was built based on the same concept as Angkor Wat. It was used as the royal temple for the kings and the royal families to make merit and the cremation sites for most of the royal families. The main Prang was built in the late Ayutthayan style, surrounded with 120 stucco Buddha images posing in the Mara Wichai manner (subduing demons). Also there is a twelve-indented cornered chedi. The style was developed to 16- and 20-indented cornered in the Rattanakosin period.

Thung Makham Yong



In ancient times, this ground was the battle field of Burma-Siam wars. The most well-known one is the elephant battle of King Maha Chakkraphat and the Burmese king. Queen Suriyothai heroically charged in front of the enemy's weapon, Sacrificing her own life to protect King Maha Chakkraphat, her beloved husband. In her honour, King Maha Chakkraphat had a funeral monument and a preaching hall constructed on the site of her royal cremation. In the reign of H.M. King Bhumibol, the royal monument of Queen Suriyothai was built on this ground covering an area of 250 rai. There is also a 180-rai reservoir with a capacity of 1,080,000 m^3 of water in this area. This is the first floodway reservoir that was built for relieving the flooding problems in Phra Nakhon Si Ayutthaya province based on H.M. King Bhumibol's idea. The King suggested that the flood water is collected in Thung Makham Yong in the rainy season, and irrigated for consumption in the dry season. In this way, Thung Makham Yong is used for protecting flooding in Ayutthaya province and other provinces nearby.

On 14 May 1996, Their Majesties the King and Queen visited this ground, and harvested the paddy in the fields. This promoted morale, encouragement, and cheerfulness to the rice farmers. Later on 25 May 2012, Their Majesties the King and Queen revisited Thung Makham Yong to pay homage to Queen Suriyothai. It is a remarkable page in the history of Thailand. Phra Nakhon Si Ayutthaya Province and the Ayutthaya Provincial Administrative Organisation agreed to build an Archives Hall to exhibit the incidents and show movies to interested people. All are welcome to learn and appreciate **"the Royal Merciness."** This hall opens daily free of charge from 8.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m.



Tourism Authority of Thailand, Phra Nakhon Si Ayutthaya Office
108/22 Mu 4 Si Sanphet Road, Tambon Pratu Chai
Amphoe Phra Nakhon Si Ayutthaya, Phra Nakhon Si Ayutthaya 13000
www.tourismthailand.org/ayutthaya

เที่ยว
หัวใจใหม่
เมืองไทยยั่งยืน

Cycling Routes

Touring Phra Nakhon Si Ayutthaya







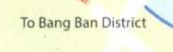
Instructions when cycling

1. Check the conditions of the bicycle that it is safe and ready to use. When parking the bicycle, always lock it properly.
2. Wear proper attire and shoes suitable for cycling comfortably and safely. Always apply sun block lotion, wear a hat and sun glasses.
3. When cycling, don't place any valuable belongings in the basket in front of the bicycle. Always carry the handbag with you at all the times.
4. Always ride the bicycle close to the footpath, and beware of the cars on the road.

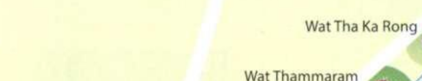
Important Telephone Numbers

Phra Nakhon Si Ayutthaya Police Station
Tel. 0 3524 1608, 0 3524 2225
Phra Nakhon Si Ayutthaya Tourist Police Station
Tel. 0 3524 1446
Phra Nakhon Si Ayutthaya Hospital
Tel. 0 3524 1728, 0 3521 1888, 0 3532 2555
Rajathanee Hospital Tel. 0 3533 5555 - 61
Ayutthaya Railway Station Tel. 0 3524 1521









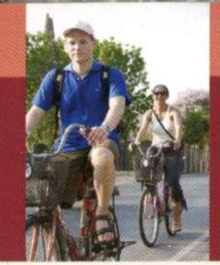
1672
Tourist information services via Fax 2
E-mail: info@tat.or.th Website: w

Ayutthaya Touring Map



Fax 24 hours; Tourist information call center services daily from 8.00 a.m. to 8.00 p.m. : Tat Ayutthaya

e: www.tourismthailand.org/ayutthaya, www.chillinayutthaya.com



Interesting places on the cycling routes

Ayutthaya Tourism Centre



The place was the old former provincial office, but was turned into the tourist centre. It consists of an Ayutthaya historical exhibition on the second floor where tourists can learn about Ayutthaya's history, one of the World Heritage Sites within 30 minutes (free of charge). This information is divided into 5 parts: (1) Ayutthaya-the World Heritage, (2) Visiting Ayutthaya, (3) Valuable art of Ayutthaya, (4) Traditional way of people in the ancient city - river people's civilizations, and (5) Lively lifestyles of the Ayutthaya people.

City Pillar Shrine



The shrine, housing the city god, contains a pillar built from gold, silver, and alloy of gold, silver and bronze. The core of the pillar was made of hard wood 30 in. in diameter and 195 cm in height (from the ground to the top). The top was gold plated. The City Pillar Shrine is the sacred place for the common people and tourists.

King U-thong Monument



Located between Bueng Phra Ram and Wat Phra Si Sanphet. It houses the statue of King U-thong, the first king of the Ayutthaya Kingdom. The royal statue, made of bronze and dressed in the royal costume, is one-half times bigger than the actual body size. H.M. King Bhumibol unveiled the royal statue on 24 June 1970.



Chao Sam Phraya National Museum



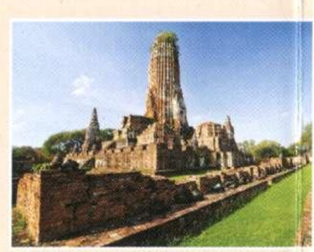
The Museum is the important historical study centre of Phra Nakhon Si Ayutthaya province. It exhibits golden ware excavated from Wat Ratchaburana and Wat Maha That. It also displays antiques and artefacts found in Phra Nakhon Si Ayutthaya province; for example, sitting Buddha image from the Dvaravati period, head of a bronze Buddha image from Wat Thammikkarat, etc.

Ayutthaya Historical Study Centre



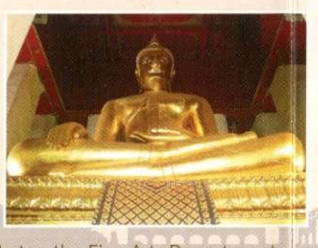
This centre was granted financial support from the Japanese government for the total sum of 999 million Yens for celebrating the auspicious occasion of the 60th birthday of H.M. King Bhumibol, and to commemorate the 600th anniversary of good relationship between Thailand and Japan. The Centre displays the simulation of Ayutthaya lifestyles, society, and culture in the old days. Five topics are exhibited: (1) Ayutthaya as the ancient kingdom, (2) Ayutthaya as the important ancient port, (3) Ayutthaya as the centre of politics and administration, (4) the relationship of ancient Ayutthaya Kingdom and foreign countries, and (5) traditional ways of life in the old days.

Wat Phra Ram



This temple was built by King Ramesuan at the cremation site of King Ramathipbodi I (King U-thong), his father. There is a big reservoir in front of the temple, appearing in the ancient royal law scripts as "Bueng Chi Khan." Later, it was renamed as "Bueng Phra Ram."

Wihan Phra Mongkhon Bophit



Worship the sacred Ayutthayan Buddha image, "Phra Mongkhon Bophit or Luangpho Yai" (a very big Buddha image). This Buddha image is very big, posing in the position of Mara Wichai (subduing demons). It is assumed that the Buddha image was built in the early Ayutthaya period. During the second Burmese captivity, the Wihan of Phra Mongkhon Bophit was burnt down. Later, the Fine Arts Department

had restored the Wihan. In addition, this place is famous as a good shopping place of local products for souvenirs.

Wat Phra Si Sanphet



Wat Phra Si Sanphet was the royal temple in the Ayutthaya period with no monks living in the temple. The building of the Temple of the Emerald Buddha (Wat Phra Kaeo) in the Grand Palace in Bangkok followed the concept and custom of this temple. In this temple, there are three main bell-shaped chedis (pagodas) the first one in the east storing the bones of King Borommatrailokkanat; the second one in the middle storing the bones of Borommarachathirat III, the elder brother of King Borommatrailokkanat, and the last one in the west built by King Borommarachathirat IV, storing the bones of King Ramathipbodi II.

Wat Maha That



Unseen in Thailand, **"the Buddha image's head wrapped inside the Bo tree roots"**. This temple is assumed to have been built in the reign of King Borommarachathirat I in 1384. King Ramesuan ordered to place the Buddha relics in the main Prang of the temple. At present, the Prang has collapsed, with only the foundation left. The Buddha relics are now kept in the Chao Sam Phraya National Museum. The thing that tourists must not miss is the Buddha image's head wrapped inside the Bo tree roots.

Wat Ratchaburana



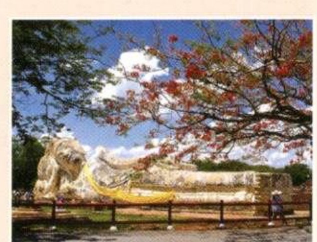
This temple is situated opposite Wat Maha That. It was built by King Borommarachathirat II (Chao Sam Phraya) on the cremation site of Chao Ai Phraya and Chao Yi Phraya who were killed in the elephant battle. King Borommarachathirat II ordered to build two chedis in memory of his two brothers. The most outstanding thing in this temple is the main Prang which was built in the architectural style of the early Ayutthaya period. Many golden wares were found during the excavation by the Fine Arts Department. These worthy treasures are now kept in the Chao Sam Phraya National Museum.

Wat Thammikkarat



This temple was formerly known as **"Wat Mukkharat."** When King Sai Nam Phueng built Wat Phanan Choeng, his son built Wat Thammikkarat predating the foundation of the Ayutthaya Kingdom. In the reign of King Borommatrailokkanat, he restored the temple and built the Wihan for listening to Dhamma Chanting. In the old days, this Wihan housed the head of a U-thong style bronze Buddha image. Now this Buddha image head is kept at the Chao Sam Phraya National Museum. In addition, there is a Chedi surrounded with Singhas and the sacred and magnicent reclining Buddha image.

Wat Lokkaya Sutharam



This temple housed the biggest reclining Buddha image on the Ayutthaya Island with the length of 29 metres. It is assumed that in the old days, there was a Wihan as evidenced by hexagonal pillars standing close to the Buddha image. The ruins were believed to be the Ubosot.

Wat Na Phra Men



It was formerly known as **"Wat Phra Merurachikaram."** It was one among the temples that were not burnt down in the war with Burma in 1563. When King Maha Chakkraphat of Siam signed a treaty of peace with King Bayinnaung of Burma, he ordered to build the pavilion between Wat Phra Men and Wat Hatsadawat. This temple has the main bejewelled Buddha image in the Mara Wichai style (subduing demons). This Buddha image is regarded one of the most beautiful Buddha images in the royal attire. The Ubosot was built in the early Ayutthayan Art with the magnicent wooden gables. There is also a stone Buddha image in the European sitting manner dating back to the Dvaravati period in the small Wihan.

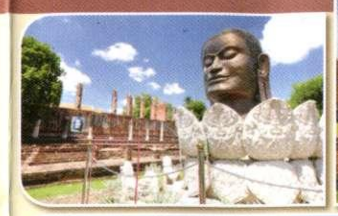
Wat Chai Watthanaram



"Reflecting the Universal Concept"

This temple was built in 1630 by King Prasat Thong on his old residential site to donate and make merit for His Royal Mother.

Cycling Routes









Ayutthaya or "Ayothaya"- a World Heritage Site- is historically significant. It is the ancient capital of Siam with a long history. This city is full of temples, archaeological sites, and historical places. Ayutthaya features an island with three rivers: Chao Phraya River, Pa Sak River, and Lop Buri River, meeting each other and surrounding the city. The road running around the island is about 12 km., suitable for cycling for a city tour. The Tourism Authority of Thailand, Phra Nakhon Si Ayutthaya Office recommends two cycling routes:

Route 1

Ayutthaya Tourism Centre (the old Provincial Hall) • the City Pillar Shrine • Khum Khun Phaen • Wat Phra Ram • Wihan Phra Mongkhon Bophit • Wat Phra Si Sanphet • King U-thong Monument • Wat Maha That • Wat Ratchaburana • Wat Thammikkarat • Wat Na Phra Men • Wat Phra Ram • Chao Sam Phraya National Museum • Ayutthaya Historical Study Centre

Route 2

Ayutthaya Tourism Centre (the old Provincial Hall) • Wat Phra Ram • Wihan Phra Mongkhon Bophit • Wat Phra Si Sanphet • King U-thong Monument • Wat Maha That • Wat Ratchaburana • Wat Thammikkarat • Wat Lokkaya Sutharam • Chedi Si Suriyothai • Wat Chai Watthanaram

Bicycle and motorcycle rental shops in Phra Nakhon Si Ayutthaya province

On the same side as the pier, from Chao Phrom Market to Ayutthaya Railway Station

1. Sai Fon Guest Houese (bicycles and motorcycles for rent)
Tel. 08 4882 0245
2. Nukul Guesthouse (bicycles and motorcycles for rent)
Tel. 08 4882 0245
3. Jintana (bicycles and motorcycles for rent)
Tel. 08 8621 8747, 08 9801 1993
4. Nong Nine Service (bicycles and motorcycles for rent)
Tel. 0 3524 2962

Near Bank for Agriculture and Agricultural Cooperatives Lane, in Chao Phrom Market

5. Tour With Thai (T.W.T) (bicycles and motorcycles for rent)
Tel. 08 3556 8008, 0 3523 1084
6. Ayutthaya Guesthouse (bicycles for rent)
Tel. 08 5503 3526
7. Good Luck (bicycles for rent)
Tel. 0 3532 3379

Near the Chao Ai Chao Yi Phraya Intersection

8. Better Cafe' (bicycles for rent)
Tel. 08 4682 7526
9. Kan Kitti Travel (bicycles and motorcycles for rent)
Tel. 08 9661 6179

In Thong Chai Guesthouse Lane

10. Thong Chai Guesthouse (bicycles for rent)
Tel. 0 3524 5210
11. Ban Suan Guesthouse (bicycles and motorcycles for rent)
Tel. 08 9797 6397